Undertakings (CPSUs) and three Cooperatives under the administrative control of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.

(c) Nine

(d) and (e) The accumulated losses and the equity capital in the sick CPSUs/Cooperatives as on March 31, 1999 was Rs. 10614.96 crores and Rs. 1736.35 crores respectively.

Revival Plan for IDPL

*195. SHRI Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Joint Action Committee of the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited has submitted a representation for finalisation of the revival plan, to assist workers to get salaries regularly; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to ensure that workers get their salaries and the company is revived?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (b) Representations are being received from various unions of the employees of IDPL on the issue of revival of IDPL and payment of wages and salaries to the employees. IDPL has been referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) in terms of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. The future of the company, including revival, would be determined by the proceedings and the final decision of the BIFR.

Government has been releasing funds to IDPL from time to time to enable payment of wages and salaries to the employees/workers of IDPL.

Railway Passenger Amenities

*196. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have held some meetings recently to discuss the railway passenger amenities;

(b) if so, the details of the outcome of the meetings;

(c) whether passenger amenities are receiving adequate attention of Government; and

(d) if so, the funds allocated for the purpose during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Meetings were recently held with General Managers and Divisional Railway Managers of Zonal Railways and guidelines were given to them on various matters including railway passenger amenities.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The net allocation of funds during the last 3 years under Passenger Amenity Head has been as under:—

	(Rs. in crores)
1997-98	89.27
1998-99	90.65
1999-2000 (Budget Estimate)	130.00

Decline in Prices of Sugar

*197. SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been significant decline in the prices of sugar from September, 1999 onwards;

(b) if so, the extent of decline in the prices of sugar and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this is attributed to the import of large quantity of sugar; and

(d) how far the decline in prices has its impact on the prices in the retail market?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) to (c) There has been no decline in prices of freesale sugar since September, 1999. The wholesale